



The

GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
April 2012 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 21, Issue 4



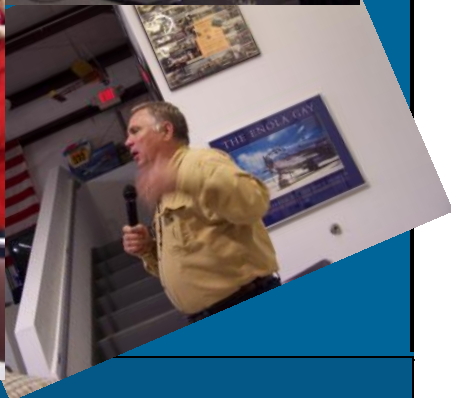
Last Months



GARS



Meeting



A Note from our President

It seems we have an early spring (or should I say summer) this year. That is great for amateur radio because now we can all get back to working on antennas, putting up wire, and even operating outdoors again. Gwinnett ARES just had an event called “deployment day” and the weather was fantastic for setting up wire and operating NVIS and VHF simplex on 5W all around the county.

Amateur radio is such a great hobby compared to many because you can have fun all year around. You can enjoy it in the winter when you cannot get outside to do things, and it goes equally well with beautiful weather and outdoor operations. For me, now that the weather is conducive to this kind of activity, I am working toward getting several antennas and my first antenna rotator up in the air.



Kyle Albritton—W4KDA

The Georgia QSO party is now days away on April 14th – 15th. GARS is sponsoring two club stations, one in Gwinnett and a second one in Greene county. You are welcome, invited, and encouraged to come out help out and operate at one of the club locations. If you cannot come out, then operate from your home and turn in your logs with GARS listed as your club. Check the GARS web page for information on the two sites as we approach this fun weekend.

I mentioned something last month that bears mentioning again. In May we will have the GARS May Madness club contest. This contest is for GARS members to contact other GARS members **on simplex**. Extra points for working new GARS members, and for helping others make contacts. It promises to be a great deal of fun. You may be surprised who you can contact on simplex and who you cannot. Contest rules will be available on the GARS website sometime in April.

May you have great health, wealth, and may all your contacts be 59,

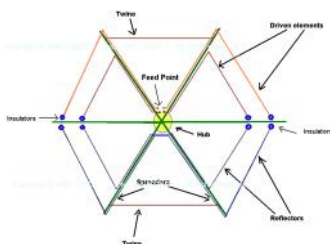
Kyle W4KDA

Our Program for this Month's Meeting

"How to turn a bale of wire and fiberglass into a hex beam"

By Bruce Brown, WA8IQF

Don't miss it!



Next GARS Monthly Meeting is
April 10, 2012
at EAA 690 Hangar at Briscoe Field
Lawrenceville, GA

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each
month at 7pm.



GQP 51st Anniversary



APRIL 14 - 15, 2012

Annually, the **second full weekend** of April

There are two operating periods:

1800Z Saturday to 0359Z Sunday

(1400 ET Saturday to 2359 ET Saturday)

1400Z to 2359Z Sunday

(1000 ET to 1959 ET Sunday)

2012 is the 51st anniversary of the Georgia QSO Party.

While a couple of years may have been missed, it's been 51 years since the first event.

We want to make 2012 GQP a special event.

VISIT THE WEB SITE TO SEE THE PRIZES AND AWARDS FOR GQP 2012 51st!!!

georgiaqsoparty.org

Go to your local club, and let them know about this special QSO Party. Be sure to get on the air in your county. Take a mobile rover run to your close counties and help us get all 159 counties on the air again!

OBJECTIVE: For amateurs outside of the state of Georgia to make contact with as many Phone and/or CW Georgia stations in as many of the 159 Georgia counties, as possible.

Georgia stations work everyone on Phone, CW, or both modes.

The GQP is on 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, and 6m only.

Suggested operating frequencies are:

Phone: 1.865, 3.810, 7.225, 14.250, 21.300, 28.450, 50.135

CW: 1.815, 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.045, 28.045, 50.095

Use your favorite logger if you have one, send a Cabrillo file to logs@georgiaqsoparty.org

ALL forms of logs are accepted, Text files, word doc files, spreadsheets, paper logs too!
(The Mailing address for logs is on the web site)

Full rules, prizes, awards, current and prior results are on georgiaqsoparty.org

Want to sponsor prizes, plaques, or awards? Contact plaques@georgiaqsoparty.org

GQP is sponsored by South East Contest Club, and Southeastern DX Club.

GQP 2011



Amateur Radio and Science

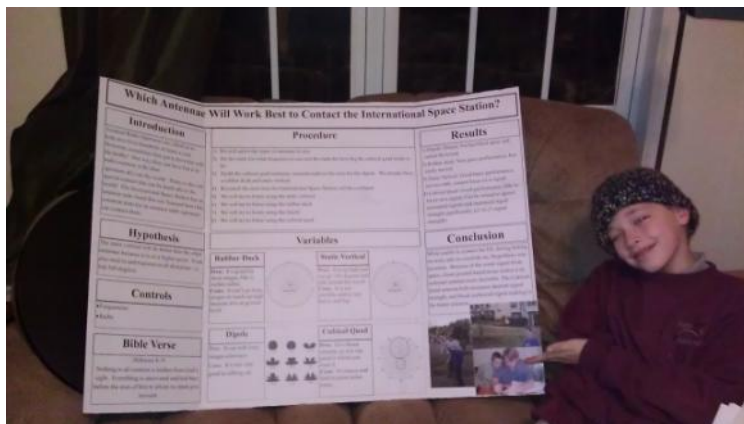
Q. How does a future ham kick off his first science fair project?

A. By trying to contact the International Space Station, of course!

Nine-year old Robert Milby, who attends Sugar Hill Christian Academy, picked this project for his fourth grade Science Fair after vetoing Legos based on the cost. Both of his parents are Hams, so most of the equipment was already on hand. Robert and his father, KD4MZU, researched when the Space Station would be overhead, figured out the best frequency to use to contact them, and selected four antennas to use. Robert chose the rubber duck antenna, the static vertical antenna, the dipole antenna, and the cubical quad antenna. Robert's hypothesis was that the static vertical antenna would work best because it could send and receive in a full 360 degrees.



They built the cubical quad and dipole antennas using diagrams found on the internet. They then tried out each antenna while the space station was overhead. While they were never able to make contact, Robert was able to determine that his hypothesis was wrong. The cubical quad was actually the best of the four antennas as you could point it straight at the space station.



Robert took a shared **First Place** in the science fair, tying with a young lady who tested the Best Type of Soil Fertilizer. Thrilled with his win, Robert continues to study for his technician license in his spare time.

Lisa Milby, KI4VDN



In CASE you need a CASE

A while back I found an aluminum tool case at Home Depot for about \$25. Unlike the first one I had several years ago, this one did not have any foam inserts. Someone on this group said to contact Georgia Case, <http://www.georgiacase.com/index.htm>, which I did. Went there yesterday and got the foam to make my aluminum tool case into an equipment case. Cost of the soft foam: \$20! They also have a "hard" foam, but the soft foam is normally what we expect when we set up a case for gear. They also offer Pelican case "pluck and pull" foam, but they told me that after a while the foam deteriorates and the gear is not held in position as well as using solid foam and cutting out the exact shape of the gear with a sharp knife.

In addition, I was told one of the better ways to cut this stuff is to freeze it in your freezer and use a bread knife with serrated edge to cut out the foam. In my instance I had them put down an inch thick piece of foam on the bottom of the case and then fill it to the top with about a 3 inch piece. The lid was one solid piece of foam which completely filled the top so once the equipment is placed the case the lid will hold everything in place while in transit.

So, if you can find one of the inexpensive aluminum tool cases at a big-box store (it took me three tries to find a Home Depot that carried them) you now have the info needed to complete your equipment case.

I followed the large case up with a trip to Harbor Freight who has a good selection of these types of cases (per Jim W4QO), and I bought the smaller case (11 x 7 x 4 Inches) which will hold a rig the size of a Ten-Tec HB-1B.



Since we were in the area, we stopped by GA Case and got the soft foam inserts for it: \$5.00! So now I have two hard cases: one for the K2 portable station and one for my HB-1 station.

I've got to stop reading e-mails from Stafford!!! He sent out the e-mail with the Harbor Freight ads and I saw the small 11 x 7 x 4 inch case and, of course, I had to call the local store in Lilburn and find out if they had any in stock. Of course they did.....silly boy....what was I thinking??? Not only that, they were on sale!!!

So, here we go....Peppermint Patti and Me....tearing off down Rt. 29 to Harbor Freight. Got the case (pretty snazzy, I might add), and then, since we were less than 5 miles from Georgia Case, off we went again. We rolled into their parking lot at 1615L and Carlos cut the foam for that little case. Cost: \$5.00!! Not only that, the owner had just bought a whole bunch (herd, flock, gaggle???) of rare tropical birds...you know, cockatiels, macaws, toucans, etc. Nice selection of feathered friends!!

So, there you have it....I am going to insure that I don't read any more postings from Stafford....it's costing me too much money and gasoline!!!

Vy 73 es Gud DX,

Rick Arlard, K7SZ

"Cogito Ergo CQ!" ("I think therefore I HAM!" w/apologies to Rene Descartes 1596-1650)

Columnist: "The Learning Curve" CQ Magazine

Columnist: "QRP Power" QST Magazine (Jan 2000 to Dec 2003)

Author: "The ARRL's Low Power Communications, The Art and Science of QRP" (all 4 editions)

? IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED ?

(continued from last month)

It is said that if you remember to apply the rule of threes to your life you will never be caught unprepared. What is the rule of threes, you ask?

- 3 minutes without air and you die
- 3 hours without shelter and you die
- 3 days without water and you die
- 3 weeks without food and you die
- 3 months without hope and you die

It sounds very bleak, I must admit. Now take a look at your family and your preparations for whatever disaster may come your way. We will look at them one at a time.

1. Lack of air is not a very likely problem I admit. Have you ever thought about what to do if your car ends up in a body of water and fills with water? Have you ever discussed this with your family? Do they know what to do? This can also apply to a filtered air supply for a shelter.
2. Lack of shelter is a real possibility during bad weather or disaster. Do you have a family plan in place to provide shelter for your family if your home is destroyed? It can be as simple as a tent and camping supplies or as complicated as a complete shelter built somewhere safe.
3. Do you have a plan to provide two gallons of water a day for each family member? This can be in the form of bottled or canned supplies or it can take the form of a hand operated pump and filter that cleans up whatever water can be found, or a combination of all three.
4. Can you supply at least 1200 calories a day for each member of your family for at least a month? Adults working on recovery and doing manual labor might well need 3000+ calories a day. Can you provide this level of nutrition for your family for at least 3 weeks without going to a store or leaving home? This amount of food for a family of four can be stored in a bedroom closet. Will it be everything you want or what you are accustomed to? No, but you will be able to survive while you make arrangements for the future.
5. Hope comes in to play when you have mastered the other problems and find yourself and your family alive and facing the future. Hope that things will continue to get better will carry you forward. Ham radio can enter in at this point, providing contact with others and allowing for planning and mutual assistance.

The above ideas have been compiled from a wide assortment of sources and are considered to be sound and conservative ideas to survive an unforeseen event. You do not need to believe in the end of the world to make plans to take care of yourself and your family. I did not cover the difference between disaster communications and survival communications — that will come in future newsletters.

Plan to be safe.

73's,

Phil N4LNE


So what happens at the GARS web site?


<http://www.gars.org>


These are statistics for the past 30 days.

Courtesy of David Adcock KA4KKF

473 people visited this site

 795 Visits


 473 Unique Visitors

 3,001 Pageviews

 3.77 Pages/Visit

 00:03:49 Avg. Visit Duration

 48.18% Bounce Rate

 45.03% % New Visits



■ 45.16% New Visitor

359 Visits

■ 54.84% Returning Visitor

436 Visits

April Fools Levity!

When I was a young pup, I had an elmer who knew all things Amateur Radio. Bill Opporknockity was his name. When I got my novice license Bill came over to the house to help me tune my dipole so that it was resonant in the 40 meter band. I had not been able to get a measured SWR below 3:1.

Bill eyed the dipole and using the nose to thumb measurement process, determined that we needed to remove exactly 2-1/2 inches off each end. Snip, snip, off it came, and we pulled the wire up between two trees and fired up the HT40. The SWR measured 2:1.

“Great”, I exclaimed. “Now if we just cut off a little more we should be perfect.”

“OH NO!”, Bill exclaimed! “Opporknockity tunes but once!” (Opportunity Knocks but once...[Ed])

Submitted by *Mike* ND4V

~~~~~  
Many of you know Dave Johnson, K4SSU. You probably have heard him talking with his pal in Australia on 20 meters most every afternoon.

I had a chance to visit with Dave and “enjoy” a cup of special tea that his Aussie bud “mate” had sent him. He told me that it was brewed from the fur of Koala Bears found near Mercy Australia.

When he set the cup of tea in front of me I noticed that it had a very pleasant aroma and beautiful color. However, when I tasted it, I almost choked. It was full of the fur and had a most unpleasant feel in the mouth.

I complained to Dave that he should run the tea through a cheese cloth to remove the hair.

He replied, “No, the Koala Tea of Mercy is never strained.”

(if you had trouble getting this one... so did I. ...“The quality of mercy...” [Ed.]

Submitted by *Mike* ND4V



## NET MANAGERS CORNER

On Monday, April 15, 1912 the Titanic sank in the North Atlantic with massive loss of life. This disaster brought Commercial and Amateur radio into the public eye for the first time. We owe what Amateur Radio is now to the pioneers of those days. Radio operators on board that night stayed at their posts even after being relieved of duty by the captain. They stayed until the power died and they could no longer do their job. Well done Phillips and Bride. You set the bar high for those that followed in your footsteps. First operator Phillips died that night assistant operator Bride survived and was rescued. Think about adding your name to the list as NCS or ANCS. It is easy and you do not even have to get wet!

### Monday Night Net Stats

| DATE      | CHECK-INS | NCS          | ANCS         |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| 3/26/2012 | 21        | John WB4QDX  | David KA4KKF |
| 3/19/2012 | 33        | John WB4QDX  | Norm WA4ZXV  |
| 3/12/2012 | 25        | Norm WA4ZXV  | None         |
| 3/05/2012 | 31        | Norm WA4ZXV  | Phil KK4EFN  |
| 2/27/2012 | 22        | Hal W4IGE    | Norm WA4ZXV  |
| 2/20/2012 | 33        | Ray N4GYN    | Phil N4LNE   |
| 2/13/2012 | 24        | John WB4QDX  | Scott KD4YDD |
| 2/06/2012 | 33        | Sandy KJ4DRO | Bill KK4AUA  |
| 1/30/2012 | 30        | Brian N4TRB  | Phil N4LNE   |
| 1/23/2012 | 25        | Norm WA4ZXV  | Phil N4LNE   |
| 1/16/2012 | 32        | Ray N4GYN    | Phil N4LNE   |
| 1/09/2012 | 24        | Hal W4IGE    | Sandy KJ4DRO |
| 1/02/2012 | 28        | John WB4QDX  | Jeff AB4HF   |

### Thursday Night Net Stats

| DATE      | CHECK-INS | NCS           | ANCS          |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| 3/22/2012 | 10        | Phil N4LNE    | Dennis WB4TID |
| 3/15/2012 | 12        | Kyle W4KDA    | Kevin KJ4SUJ  |
| 3/08/2012 | 14        | Kyle W4KDA    | Dennis WB4TID |
| 3/01/2012 | 8         | Phil N4LNE    | Scott KD4YDD  |
| 2/23/2012 | 8         | Dennis WB4TID | Kevin KJ4SUJ  |
| 2/16/2012 | 13        | Kyle W4KDA    | Scott KD4YDD  |
| 2/09/2012 | 13        | Kyle W4KDA    | Scott KD4YDD  |
| 2/02/2012 | 12        | Kyle W4KDA    | Bill KK4AUA   |
| 1/26/2012 | 17        | David ka4kkf  | Phil N4LNE    |
| 1/19/2012 | 10        | Bill KK4AUA   | None          |
| 1/12/2012 | 9         | Kyle W4KDA    | None          |
| 1/05/2012 | 17        | Kyle W4KDA    | Scott KD4YDD  |

73' See you on the Nets!

*Phil* N4LNE

## GARS Membership

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership,  
please visit our website - <http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),  
please email the Membership Chairman - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can renew or update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free  
- <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

# GARS Email Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>

Join the GARS Yahoo Group if you are not already a member. To do so, go to the GARS Yahoo Group web site (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>) and then click on the Join This Group! link on the main page.

If you have joined the group, you can Post a message by sending an email to [GARS@yahoogroups.com](mailto:GARS@yahoogroups.com)

The Yahoo Group is for GARS friends and members to share information, ask questions, and make announcements.

This is your group and each member is welcome to post questions or comments relating to amateur radio. Use it! With all the new hams in the area, this is great place to ask for help. There's someone out there reading the emails that can help.

Also, join us on **facebook**: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>

**To Learn & Have Fun**



- **147.075+ 82.5**
- Meetings 2nd Tuesday Jan-Nov
- Multiple nets every week
- Gigantic Field Day
- Large, Active, Diverse Club
- Family Oriented

**www.gars.org**



**Hands-Only™  
CPR**

**1**



**Call 911**

**2**



**Push hard and fast in  
the center of the chest.**  
Learn more at [handsonlycpr.org](http://handsonlycpr.org)

American Heart  
Association



Learn and Live

## The GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, W4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN  
770-689-6620 or [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net)

**JOIN ARRL  
- OR -  
RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP  
THROUGH GARS**

Help the GARS Treasury by applying for ARRL membership or renewing your ARRL membership through GARS. By applying for ARRL membership through GARS we are able to keep \$15.00 of each new membership fee for our Treasury. We can keep \$2.00 from each renewal.

Show your support for both organizations by applying through GARS.

Ralph Pickwick – KJ4CNC, GARS Treasurer, will have the ARRL applications at the monthly meetings for your use. We only ask that you don't wait until the last minute to renew, as we will only be sending the applications to ARRL on a monthly basis. We will only be accepting personal checks with the applications (no PayPal).

If you have any questions concerning this process, please contact Ralph at KJ4CNC@arrl.net.



**HAM RADIO**  
for the LOVE of it

**UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR**

**Southeast US**



**04/14/2012 | Mobile Hamfest**

**Location:** Mobile, AL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Mobile Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.w4iax.net>

**04/28/2012 | Wiregrass ARC Spring Tailgate**

**Location:** Headland, AL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Wiregrass Amateur Radio Club

**04/28/2012 | Calhoun Hamfest**

**Location:** Sugar Valley, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.k4woc.com>

**05/12/2012 | Ellijay Hamfest**

**Location:** Ellijay, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Ellijay Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.ngamtn.com/w4hhh/>

**05/12/2012 | Heart of Georgia Hamfest**

**Location:** Byron, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Central GA ARC, Middle GA Radio Club, & BMSRC

**Website:** <http://wa4ort.com>

**06/02/2012 | Georgia Section Convention (Atlanta Hamfest)**

**Location:** Marietta, GA

**Type:** ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval

**Sponsor:** Atlanta Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>



# BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, **Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ♦ Camping
- ♦ Hiking
- ♦ Horseback Riding
- ♦ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

**Steve Back, WB2OGY**

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

**Jeff Lee, AF4JL**

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: [advisor@venturecrew73.org](mailto:advisor@venturecrew73.org)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA  
President



Earl Whatley, AF4FG  
Vice President



Hal Collier, W4IGE  
Secretary



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC  
Treasurer, Apparel Manager



Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO  
Program Manager



Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Membership Chairman, VE Team



David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Webmaster, Field Day Chairman



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ  
Public Information Officer



Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV  
TechFest Chairman



Ray Bailey, N4GYN  
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF  
Multimedia Chairman



Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN  
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
Repeater Chairman



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
WAS-Checker



Phil McCleary, N4LNE  
Net Manager



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI  
Technical Advisor



## GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

D-Star  
WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

Main Repeater Site  
Oak Street,  
Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater  
147.255(+) MHz  
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater  
53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeaters  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone  
442.100(+)  
82.5 PL Tone

Backup Repeater Site  
Lanier Mountain,  
Snellville

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in April:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**  
**From All of Us at GARS**

Paul Branson (KA4YZR)  
Doris Brown  
Charles Burts (KK4FNE)  
Roger Cohen (WB2EMD)  
Anna Dominguez (KF4UOC)  
Weldon Dowd (N4PYP)  
David Duarte (KD4FAO)  
Dozier Griffith (WA4DEO)  
Andrea Hartlage (KG4IUM)  
Stan McDonald (KI4H)  
Evelyn Whalen (KE4PLW)

**GARS Recurring Calendar**

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm
- ♦ Every Monday at 8pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Thursday at 9pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters
- ♦ Every Saturday at 7:30am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

**Meeting Minutes  
GARS General Meeting March 13th, 2011**

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, GARS President, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at the EAA building.

Introductions of first time visitors and others present.

Treasurer's Report – Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC

Membership – Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, reported the following:

Arthur Stone, KK4GWP, voted in as new member.

Keith Wise, KK4HAL, voted in as new member.

John Gay IV, KK4FOJ, voted in as new member.

James Newell, KK4GWK, voted in as new member.

Richard Waigand, K4KME, voted in as new member.

Gregg Freeman, KK4GWG, voted in as new member.

Gabriel Granitz, KK4HGL, voted in as new member.

**GARS has 217 active members**

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, reminded everyone about the GA QSO Party on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. GARS members will be operating out of Greene County and Bogan Park locations.

Steve Back, WB2OGY, announced that the **Scout Show will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds**. The Gwinnett ARES trailer will be on site.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, reminded everyone that on **April 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a work party at the Lawrenceville repeater location after the GARS breakfast**.

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, reminded everyone that **GARS will be assisting with the Dacula Memorial Day Parade on May 28<sup>th</sup>**. Volunteers are needed.

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, reminded everyone about the **May Madness contest for GARS members May 1-31**. Rules will be published in the April Garzette.

John Davis, WB4QDX, invited GARS members to participate in Skywarn weather nets and talked briefly about reportable criteria.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced that there will be a new educational chair position created. He is seeking a volunteer.

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, announced that Bob Rule, creator of Ham Radio Deluxe, will be speaking on Thursday at the SEDX meeting.

The Kennehoochee Hamfest will be March 17<sup>th</sup> at Jim R Miller Park.

**Break**

Program was "T32C, DXpedition to Kiritimati (Christmas Island)" by Paul Manno, KG4UVU.

Prize Drawing

There were 57 attendees at the meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:07pm.

*Hal Collier* W4IGE, Secretary



## What's new on the WEB SITE?

- ◆ You should notice a change to the user menu. It will change when you log in to give you more options.
- ◆ The Apparel link now features PAYPAL to order your GARS Apparel, as well as downloading an order form.
- ◆ Are you using the web site to renew your membership? You can use PayPal to renew only your GARS membership or become a new member.
- ◆ The ARRL renewal must be done in person with the Treasurer.
- ◆ Do you get the GARZETTE from the web site? It's in the File Download menu selection in the Newsletter Folder.

73, *David* KA4KKF

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| April       |                          |                                                               |     |                                   |     |                                                                               |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun         | Mon                      | Tue                                                           | Wed | Thu                               | Fri | Sat                                                                           |
| 1           | 2<br>8pm GARS<br>2M net  | 3<br>6:30 GARS Exec<br>Meeting                                | 4   | 5<br>9pm GARS Round<br>Table Net  | 6   | 7<br>7:30am Breakfast at<br>Gold Corral -<br>Riverside Drive                  |
| 8<br>EASTER | 9<br>8pm GARS<br>2M net  | 10<br>5pm Dinner at the<br>Flying Machine<br>7pm GARS Meeting | 11  | 12<br>9pm GARS Round<br>Table Net | 13  | 14<br>GA QSO Party<br>7:30am Breakfast at<br>Gold Corral -<br>Riverside Drive |
| 15          | 16<br>8pm GARS<br>2M net | 17                                                            | 18  | 19<br>9pm GARS Round<br>Table Net | 20  | 21<br>7:30am Breakfast at<br>Gold Corral - Riverside<br>Drive                 |
| 22          | 23<br>8pm GARS<br>2M net | 24                                                            | 25  | 26<br>9pm GARS Round<br>Table Net | 27  | 28<br>7:30am Breakfast at<br>Gold Corral -<br>Riverside Drive                 |
| 29          | 30<br>8pm GARS<br>2M net |                                                               |     |                                   |     |                                                                               |

Phases of the moon: 6:○ 13:● 21:● 29:●

Holidays and Observances: 8: Easter Sunday



## Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)  
WCARS VEC  
Braselton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA  
Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
WCARS VEC  
Johnson High School  
3305 Poplar Springs Rd, Gainesville, GA  
Perry Roper, KO4RD  
(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday, ODD Months

ARRL VEC  
8:30 a.m.  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Varone, W4ETN  
(770) 978-3179

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm (effective Jan 2012)  
Gwinnett County Fire Station #5  
3001 Old Norcross Road  
Duluth, GA 30096  
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI  
3 pm (Except December)  
Auburn City Hall Council Room  
1369 Fourth Avenue  
Auburn, GA  
Steve Donellan, N5SMD  
(404) 520-0368

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results for March, 2012

We had an excellent exam session.

6 out of 7 applicants passed.

### Ham exam results:

- 3 new Technicians, 1 failed
- 2 upgraded to General
- 1 upgraded to Extra

Thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:

- |                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| - Dave Bruse      | W4DTR  |
| - Frank Sauciunas | KF4TQV |
| - Bill Cherepy    | WB4WTN |
| - Mike Weathers   | ND4V   |
| - Sid Weaver      | N4NQ   |
| - Steve Back      | WB2OGY |
| - Mark Fehlig     | WA6NGC |
| - Jeff Cutchins   | AB4HF  |
| - Robert Pursley  | WD4KQQ |

Thanks & 73,

*Dave Bruse* W4DTR

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC  
7 pm @ United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech  
VanLeer Elec. Building  
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  
See [www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com)  
Alexander G. Carver  
(404) 894-2936  
[acarver@ece.gatech.edu](mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu)

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC  
Downtown Marietta  
Fire Station #1, Training Room  
112 Haynes Street  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
Meeting begins at 7:00pm  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30pm  
Talk In -146.820(-)  
N.E. Georgia ARC  
Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30pm  
Talk In - 147.225(+)  
PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical  
Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00pm

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown  
Rd & Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00pm  
Meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club  
Board Room of The  
Shepherd Center at  
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta  
at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio  
League  
Masonic Lodge  
194 Milton Avenue  
Alpharetta, Georgia  
meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more, go to: <http://www.gars.org/>



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KJ4VO

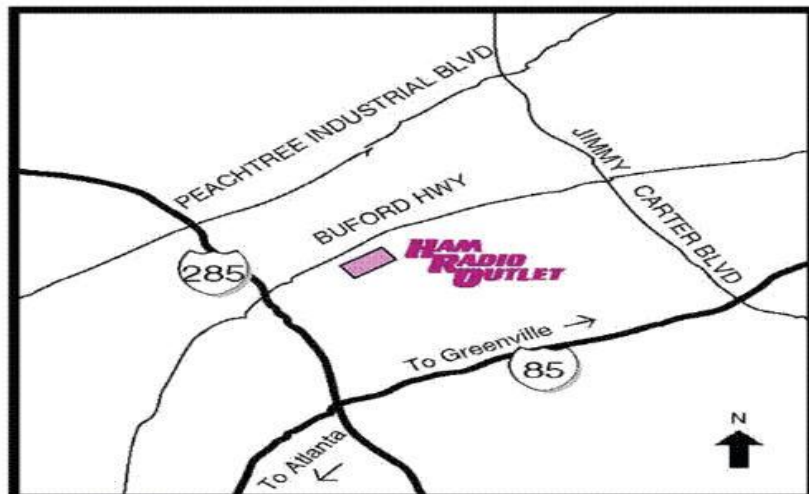
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